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THE LIBRARY—ITS FUNCTION.

What is the library? What a foolish question! The library is a place in which books are kept, of course. And to a great many it is merely a place of boredom where one has to go to make up work and refer to page after page of dry matter that is of no use in the world except to help in getting a pass. But to one who comes to the University to study, to broaden oneself, it is a place infinitely of more value and importance than merely making up reference work assigned in the various departments. In the first place the reading room, in which is contained the papers and magazines, is one of the most important features of the library. However, it seems that the periodicals and magazines of the most interest are those containing short stories and those in which the benefit lies only in momentary pleasure. Of this type are the Saturday Evening Post, Harpers, The Century, etc. Without doubt these magazines are fine, and it is not to be thought for a moment that story reading is deplored, but on the other hand, there are magazines of another type that should be read as thoroughly as the others. Of the latter type are the Yale Review, magazines dealing with the sciences, The World's Work, The Literary Digest, The Outlook, The Geographical Magazine, Current History, and many others that contain a fund of valuable information that is of a broadening character. It is essential that those intending to figure in public life should acquire the habit of keeping up with the news of the day, with the social, political, industrial and economical activities of the world. It is only in this way that the mind can be trained to throw aside the trivial and the worthless and to grasp those things which are really worth while. These are the things that tend towards concentration. And it is a fact that is absolutely true, that a man who expects to use his head instead of his body must assuredly master the art of concentration. For he who goes through life engaging in those things to which he has failed to give the attention necessary to their mastery, is the man whom society calls a scoundrel or a parasite, for not having learned for himself he must cling to others. In political affairs he is known as a demagogue, for not having assiduously applied himself to the principles which he would represent he must feign to know them as well as methods for the alleviation of political evils. That is the reason that a young man should, while he has the opportunity, choose food for thought that is wholesome, and keep himself informed. Such articles as may be found relating to politics, statesmanship, literature, the drama, current history, criticisms, news of the day, in short such as deal with anything relating to the development of humanity—these should be read and studied for there is as great an education in such things as in any class room study.

The books in the library should not be considered merely for the purpose of reading parallel to certain studies, but as a priceless treasure for the benefit of all who thirst for knowledge. One may find there books dealing with thousands of topics, history, biography, poetry, literature, politics, oratory, travel, debate, science, religion, art, languages, law, and many others, all of which are tremendously important. Picture to yourself two types. A boy who, having finished his classes, rambles to the store to buy a "dope," then takes a few pitches at the crack, dances awhile, visits about ten other boys until supper, probably hindering someone from studying. Another boy, as soon as he has finished his classes, takes a short run, and then goes to the library, reads timely articles and a few chapters in some book that will be an asset to him. Draw conclusions for yourself as to the one that will more easily make a success out of life. A young man entering college, if he would spend two-thirds of his spare time reading standard novels, by such men as Dickens, Hawthorne, Thackeray, Hugo, Maupassant and Scott, in his freshman year, then in his sophomore year take up history and biography, and so on through art, travel, literature, etc., this is the man who would be truly educated.

A wide fund of information, a deep knowledge of history, literature and the sciences are invaluable assets to him who would write or speak or take a prominent part in any public activity. These things begin where the classroom work leaves off, in fact, your studies are designed to place you in a position to read and study to yourself.

Take advantage of your opportunity! Your work is not over with the tolling of the bell. Duty to yourself and to society demands that you go farther than merely obeying the mandates of your instructors, but that you equip yourself for your life work by mastery of that work. Use some initiative and learn things for yourself.—"The Mississippian."

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Daily is not responsible for the sentiments of letters published in the correspondence column. Signed communications from graduates, undergraduates and members of the faculty will be placed in print if they are not of too great length. Correspondents are requested to observe the unwritten law of the newspaper office—that they write upon ONE side of the paper ONLY.

To the Editor:

Sir,—Although I am not a member of the McGill C. O. T. C., it has nevertheless been brought to my notice by a member of the battalion to the effect that a number of men of a certain Faith, who are with the regiment, were publicly insulted by one of the non-commissioned officers. This, in my personal opinion, seems to be something that the McGill C. O. T. C. does not stand for, as I know that their policy in the past has been one of strict discipline and fairness to all.

The insult I mention, was occasioned when "C" Company were handling their rifles in on Thursday evening after the regular drill. The members of the Company happened to be rather noisy, and as a result one of the non-commissioned officers thought that he would be able to quieten them by speaking in ironical terms of a certain race, whose members are also part and parcel of the McGill regiment. It was reported to me by one of the men that the non-commissioned officer remarked—"Don't act like a bunch of—"

In all fairness, Mr. Editor, I hardly think that the officers of the McGill C. O. T. C. instruct the N. C. O.'s to secure order by this mode of talk. Surely, this is not regarded as one of the qualifications for stripes! Discipline is usually gained in an altogether different manner, and it is felt by a number of the members of the C. O. T. C., as well as by men who are not members, that this insult was entirely undeserved, and that it is worthy of being brought to the notice of the officers of the C. O. T. C.

Thanking you, Sir, for the space, I am,
HARRY SHAER,
Arts '17.

December 1, 1916.

IMPERIAL THEATRE.

Mae Murray, the brilliant young star who won a distinct place for herself in the hearts of photodramatic fans by her splendid performances in "To Have and To Hold," and "The Big Sister," will be seen in another of the Jesse L. Lasky productions entitled "The Plow Girl," a play which carries the audience from the South African Veldt to the drawing rooms of fashionable London society. The story has to do with the adventures of Margot, a little girl who is the family drudge of a drunken South African farmer. A scheming relative, to obtain money from an English woman who wishes to find her lost granddaughter, selects Margot to impersonate the lost child, brings her to London, and she is modelled into a fashionable society woman. The tables are, however, turned on the scheming fortune hunter when Margot comes into her own. The play is from the original story by Edward Morris, and presents some splendid characterizations. Mae Murray is seen as the farm girl, with only an air of a consoler and pet, and her appearance when dressed in the cast-off trousers of Theodore Roberts is in striking contrast to the immaculate dress of the society belle which she assumes later in the picture. This photoplay will be the feature attraction for the three days commencing to-morrow, which also includes the fourth episode of the Scarlet Runner series, "The Hidden Prince," in which Earle Williams is again the hero.

A picture that will cause as great a stir as did "The Common Law" is Alice Brady in the adaptation by William A. Brady of Henry Murgers' much discussed book "La Vie De Boheme," which will be shown for the four days commencing Wednesday. The picture depicts more accurately than any other work, the true mode of living, the pains and the joys of a carefree people, their ideals in life, their deep feelings of love and emotions, and their devotion to the ideal. Through the genius of the director, Albert Capellani, who also directed "The Common Law," Henri Murgers' masterpiece of literature has been made into a photoplay masterpiece with Alice Brady as the lovable "Mimi."

same conditions and on the same scale as chief petty officers of Royal Navy who died in action and in the event of death occurring as the result of such injuries within seven years, pensions, etc., will be awarded to the officer's widow and children or other relative under the conditions applicable in the case of the chief petty officer, Royal Navy, killed in action or dying of wounds received in action.

At the end of the war or on expiration of service, passage back to Canada will be paid provided conduct has been satisfactory. Candidates must apply personally or by letter to secretary, Department of Naval Service, Ottawa. A form will be forwarded to each applicant who will return it (in duplicate) to the secretary, Department of the Naval Service, Ottawa. These forms must be accompanied by one certified copy of the applicant's birth certificate, without which no candidate can be considered.

HARD TO UNDERSTAND.

"Indignation is growing in Germany," says the Overseas News Agency, "and the excitement is stimulated by the fact that German submarines returning from trips report again and again that they have been attacked treacherously by hostile merchantmen." Similarly, the Germans were wildly indignant and revengeful toward the Belgians for resisting the invasion of their country and actually fighting and killing German soldiers. The world never will understand such mental processes.—Buffalo Express.

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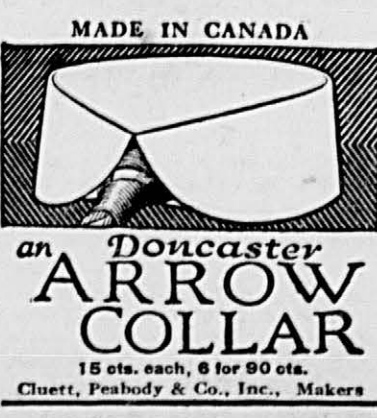
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To-day, LOUISE HUFF and JACK PICKFORD, in "SEVENTEEN."

"THE SHIELDING SHADOW."

LITTLE STORIES OF THE WAR. Most people by this time, are familiar with the story of the Yorkshire woman who, in receipt of an allowance and with "no 'usbun' to keep," remarked that "peace may be upon us at any time." A new light is thrown on the situation in this connection by a story which comes from Lancashire. The heroine was a charwoman by profession and had long followed that calling. Her husband, however, had recently got "on munitions." Their affluence was unprecedented, and something had to be done about it. She accordingly went to the lady who employed her each week and intimated that she could not come any more for the present. She had good reasons. "Last week," she explained, as one greatly exercised, "chose what I did, I 'ad to put some money in t' bank, an' it looks like bein' t' same again this week."

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ENTRANCE TO FLYING CORPS MADE EASY.

(Continued from Page 1.)

them on the expiration of their active service period.

An officer retired at his own request, or for physical unfitness due to causes beyond his own control, may be awarded such gratuity as the Admiralty thinks fit, not exceeding 150 pounds for each completed year of service (including probationary service).

Officers of the Royal Naval Air Service injured while flying either on duty or when undergoing a course of instruction at one of the instructional establishments, or privately with the permission of the Admiralty, will be eligible for pensions and gratuities under the same conditions and on the same scale as in the case of other officers of the military branch of the Royal Navy of their corresponding rank wounded in action. Officers injured on duty but not while actually flying will be treated as regards wounds, pensions and gratuities in the same manner as officers of corresponding ranks in the military branch injured on duty, but not in action.

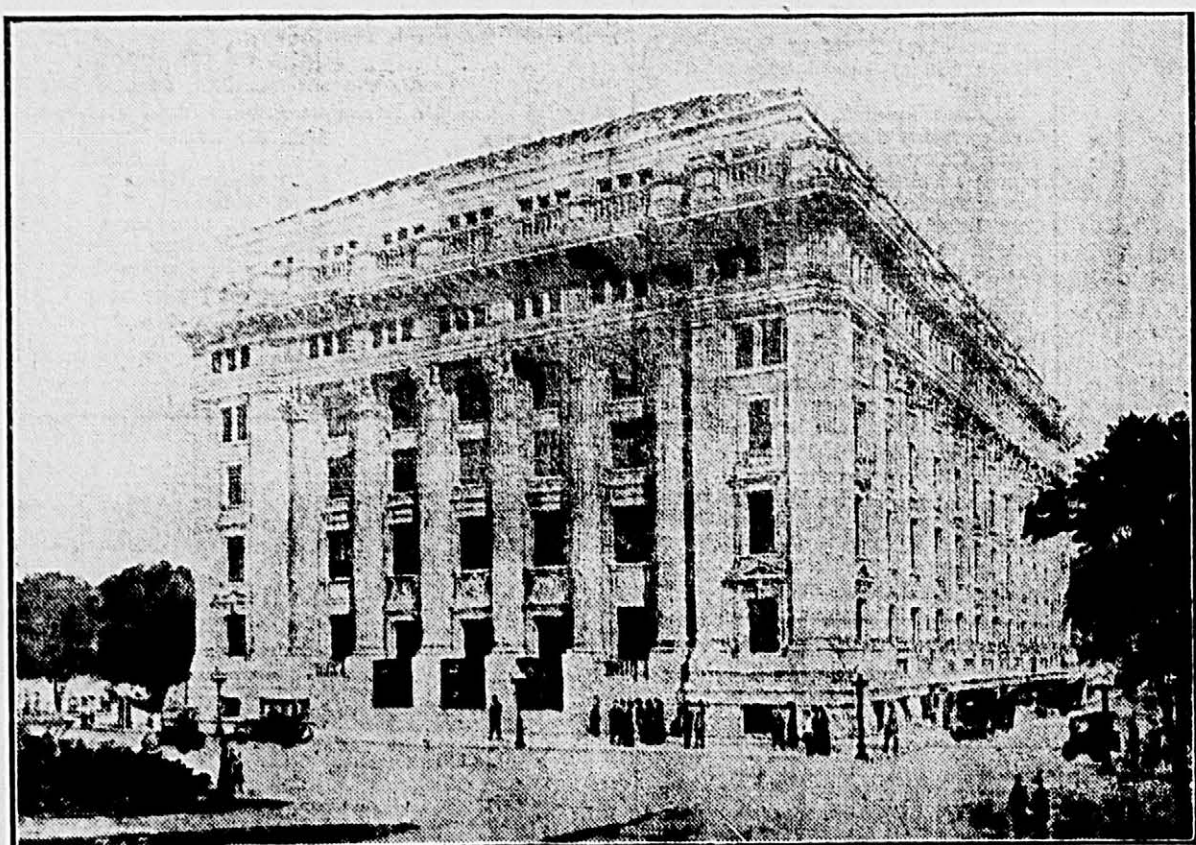
The widows and children of officers dying while in the Royal Naval Air Service will, subject to the completion of the necessary period of commissioned service on the active list, be eligible for pensions and commensurate allowance under the same

conditions and on the same scale as officers of corresponding rank in the military branch of the Royal Navy. But in the event of an officer's death being attributable to an injury sustained while flying, either on duty or when undergoing a course of instruction at one of the instructional establishments, and occurring within seven years of the date of such injury, the award of pensions, gratuities or compassionate allowances to the officer's widow and children or other relatives will be made irrespective of the length of service under the conditions applicable to the case of the officer of corresponding rank in the military branch of the Royal Navy killed in action.

Other Conditions.

In the event of death resulting from an injury sustained on duty but not while flying, any pensions and allowances awarded to dependent relatives will be on the scale and subject to conditions laid down for officers of their corresponding rank in the military branch, whose deaths are attributable to injuries received on duty, but not in action.

Candidates will, if injured, while flying either on duty, or when undergoing a course of instruction at any of the instructional establishments, or privately with the permission of the director of naval service, be eligible for pensions and gratuities under the



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QUIPS

—By A. S. N.

UNCLE SALT BASIN—FUSSING.

Oh, the great increase in fussing is the cause that's making us sing, and it's really quite astounding all the energy that's used; when we're drilling on the campus, all the queens are out to lamp us, so by now I'm quite a veteran, and only feel amused. But the library, great Caesars! when I see those helpless geese, each one fastened stiff and rigid, like a fly upon the wall, with those lines of queens entrancing from beneath their lashes glancing, and yet trying to exhibit cold indifference to it all, why I feel a mighty pity, as I chant my little ditty, and I wish those wretched fussers could but see themselves to-day. They would want to flee like blazes from the smiling crowd whose gaze is such a terror to the modest and retiring ones, but say! I can hardly speak of fussing without lapsing into cussing, I can hardly keep my temper when I'm talking to such rubes; but since all my wrath and walling will I'm sure prove unavailing, and you cannot be persuaded, go ahead and fuss, you boobs!

GOLF—Continued.

Once again we mark the progress of our epic poem, which is now an institution in the homes of all true students of McGill and R. V. C. We advise all our readers to cut out the instalments of this literary treat and paste them up around their studies, in the form of a Grecian frieze; it will prove a perfect frieze—a frost in fact. We also would advise the author to cut it out.

Or may it be that in its flight Remote from mother earth, Hath steered straight out of gravity And made Venus its berth? Such thoughts, such doubts he entertains, When lo, he casts his eye Upon the tee's unruffled crest, Perceives the ball to lie. Some still maintain; th' uncouth may swear The ball ne'er budged an inch, But such phenomena at golf, To explain is a mere chime. That in its flight through countless stars, A planet it had found, And that its presence on the mound, Is due to the rebound.

OUR HOME CHAT COLUMN.

Dear Mr. Editor of Quips:
Here is another little effort of mine written in the Scandinavian form: You kissed me,—ah! Yuhllissunufagun; And your head dropped down on my breast,—ah-h-h! So that's why I hit you a punch in the kisser—Ha! Ha! And the blood flowed down on my vest, Then your soft white arms stole around my neck,—um, ah! Securing a half-Nelson hold; ugh-ah! So that's why I hit you the way that I did, ah-h-h! And dropped you for ten seconds cold. He! He! Ha! Ha! With best wishes from IMA POORNUIT.

WHAT IS IT?

"The Flavor Lasts"—how often we These common little words may see! Though other chews Their strength may lose, We always get the juice in thee: And who resists the soft appeal

Of "Chew It After Every Meal?"

"Really Delightful"—here again A chew that tempts the strongest men; And women too, For very few. Refuse to answer gladly when They're asked to lick the icing from "That Candy-Coated Chewing Gum." But there's a new one now on sale, It's manufactured by the pail; And really rich, The phrase with which it tries to tell its little tale. In words just three, no more no fewer, It boldly claims to "Charm the Chewer."

LEADING BLIGHTS OF LITERATURE.—4.—Farless Chickens.

Farless Chickens was one of the most brilliant figures of Victorian literature. His favorite hobby was chicken-farming; early in life he set up a large number of farms, naming his play after them, as "Hennery the Fourth," "Hennery the Fifth," and so on up to "Hennery the Eighth." At the date when the latter play was produced Chickens was unfortunately blown up at breakfast by one of his eggs, and died in great agony. "All Over Mist" or "Up in the Clouds," his famous detective story, was printed while he was yet young, and was a great success; his pictures of contemporary life, "The Christmas Quarrel," and "The Cold Curiosity Dope," also won much approval. To amuse his children he penned the delightful little stories, "The Tails of Two Kitties," and "Squeak, Mouse," "David Hopfield," was perhaps the most popular of his novels; "Slick Chick Capers," a treatise on hen-farming, is still widely read. Just before his death he seemed obsessed with the fever of coin-collecting, and his stories "Hard Dimes" and "Nichol Has Nickel, Why?" make interesting reading still. With the detective stories, "Start in, Puzzle it!" and "The Crimes," we close this list of his fiction works. His book of travels in India "Bombay and Run," is perhaps less widely known. The following is a piece of verse by Chickens, which was written at the early age of six months.

PATHOS IN POESY.

He sits alone in grief and woe, In diggings old and dusty, His health and spirits both are low, His fountain-pen is rusty. He cannot think a single think, With brain-cells pale and flaccid, He feels that life is very punk, And longs for Prussic Acid. But then the muse begins to fizzle, He writes like anything, The title of the poem is, "The Violets of Spring"!!

WHO

Is the R. V. C. Junior who amuses himself on icy days by sliding along the pavement?

WHO

Was the stude who stood outside the library door in the rain on Wednesday morning, waiting for a young lady to finish making her exit?

WHO

Is the Law Senior who is engaged in the production of a book? What is its title?

WHO

Was the Arts Soph. who was enjoying such a pleasant little talk at

RAILWAY-MECHANICAL CLUB TO MAKE TRIP

Forest Products Laboratories to be Visited by Engineering Students This After-noon.

The Railway and Mechanical Club of McGill University will make their usual weekly trip this afternoon to the Forest Products Laboratories of Canada. These Laboratories, which are associated with McGill, are situated at 700 University St. The members of the club will assemble at the Union at 2.15, before going through the Forest Products Buildings.

The trip should be of interest, not only to Mechanical and Railway students, but to all Engineering students as well. The technical research extends into four operating divisions; timber tests, timber physics, pulp and paper and wood preservation.

The staff have at their disposal the most up-to-date machinery and apparatus available. Students will find of special interest the semi-commercial paper mill, the retorts for preservative processes for the treatment and protection of timber against decay and insect destruction. Railway ties treated by different processes and subjected to various tests will be on exhibition. There are many other interesting phases of the work, which are too numerous to mention, but Mr. Campbell, the assistant superintendent, will explain them in detail to the students making the trip.

Two former students of the University of Iowa, have organized a newspaper on the Mexican border, where they are now stationed with Iowa troops, the interests of which will be devoted to the activities of the militiamen. The first edition will appear Sunday, with a circulation of 3,000.

The publication will be known as the Iowa Guardsman.

the foot of the stairs in the Arts Building on Friday morning?

WHO

Broke it up with a skillfully bowled

WHO

Is the Second Year Commercial student who strained his left eye in the "Five, Ten," on Wednesday? What was the cause?

WHO

Is the Commercial Soph. who says that he is "uncontrollably in love" with an R. V. C. girl?

WHO

Is the girl? What do you think of his taste?

WHO

Is the R. V. C. student who uttered a plaintive desire that "something nice" be said about her in these columns? (Nay, little one, truth is the fixed ideal of Quips, whatever our inclination may be.)

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"Wat Thael." (1) Yes, North and South America are shaped like a pear—and they are. (2) The latest evidence of war madness in Europe is Rumania. (3) No; it isn't expensive to have the wedding ring monogrammed, but you will find that this is only the initial cost of matrimony. (4) The easiest and most inexpensive way of getting a troublesome tooth removed is to walk down the front steps with your eyes shut, and a flatiron in your mouth. Oh, yes, and be sure to have the right tooth protruding when you hit the pavement. Thank you, dear, "IVA PAYNE."

POET SCORNER.

Edited by Pyrotechnic Pete.

We have received the following pathetic wall from the R. V. C.; in its pristine state it was peculiarly heart-rending, on account of the decorations of splashes of marmalade and golden syrup with which it was adorned.

A SONG OF FRESHIES.

Sing a song of Freshies, Nice and fresh and green, But the way we're treated here, Don't you think it's mean? Seniors entering the room Are so very grand, That they call a meeting if We forget to stand!

Sing a song of Freshies Sitting at the table, Bouncing up a moving plate, Past as we are able, Upper-classes grab their own, No one ever waits, Yet they call a meeting if We don't move their plates!!

Sing a song of Freshies, Looking simply fine, Standing in the drawing room, All dressed up to dine, Seniors, Juniors, Sophomores, Always to the fore, Yet they call a meeting; if We don't ope the door!!!

Sing a song of Freshies, Meeting for a chat, Perhaps we have a little fun, What's the harm in that? Upper-classes come along, Squash us for a while, And they call a meeting if We laugh above a smile!!!!

Sing a song of Freshies, Sing a song of Fun, Of R. V. C. Arts 20, And its members every one, Clasp a link of fellowship Round each heart, and we Will sing a song of Freshies of Arts '20, R.V.C.

CASUAL CALRENCE.

He answers any question you like to put TO-DAY'S PERPETRATIONS. Ques.—Which students ought to know the most about military matters? Ans.—The Dental students, because they do the most drilling.

Ques.—"I am deezirus of beln what is kaldi a lateder man. What is the quickest wale to do sew?" Ans.—Have the alphabet tattooed on you.

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Roasts: Prime Ribs of Beef au Jus; Leg of Veal with Dressing; Leg of Pork, Apple Sauce.
Vegetables: Boiled or Creamed Potatoes; Pickled Beets.
Desserts: Orange Jelly with Cream; Tapioca Custard Pudding.

In an effort to get in some important late copy for the Trojan of the University of California, the editor was arrested for speeding. He was released too late to make the press.

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Ho Lee Smoke, the Opium Fiend

"Well Jimson," said Sprague, as he entered my apartment one morning in November, "Would you like to join me in working on this case? It promises to prove very interesting." "Oh, certainly, Sprague," I exclaimed, "how thoughtful of you to remember me. What is it this time?"

"Aha," cried Henneidy, as he seated himself upon my old meerschaum pipe, which lay on a chair beside me. "This is indeed an unusual case. Look at this!" He handed me a sheet of yellowish paper, covered with spiky-looking signs in black, a laundry ticket in short. "I don't see anything unusual about it, Sprague," I remarked.

"Look again," said the detective, "Do you not see near the lower left-hand corner, a little smudge of a dark gummy substance?"

"Why, yes, I do," I replied, after a second inspection, "What is it?" "Jimson," said the great detective, "that is pure, concentrated opium. I tested it to-day in my patent Poison Separator, which you will remember, worked so well in the case of Okechon Ali. Now, I shall lay the criminal from whose den this comes by the heels, when I have sufficient proof of his guilt. Will you accompany me?"

A moment later, treading ruthlessly over the fragments of my meerschaum, he was making for the door. I followed him hastily, putting on my overcoat as I did so. "How will you get your pipe, Sprague?" I asked, in my usual foolish fashion. Sprague chuckled, "Wait and see, my boy," he replied.

We hurried along the cold, empty streets, to stop in a few minutes before a small window over which was the sign, "Ho Lee Smoke, Laundry." "Now Jimson," said Sprague, "Give me the laundry ticket. We need some pretext for going in there, you know."

I experienced a horrible, sinking feeling in the waistcoat region. "Why Sprague," I gasped, "haven't you got it?" "Confound it, Jimson," he burst out, "You don't mean to tell me you haven't brought it?" "I thought you had it, Sprague," I protested feebly. "I had it when I showed it to you, and I haven't it now, so you must have lost it." I was powerless before his logic.

"Now," he went on, "I'll have to think of an excuse to go into the place." An hour passed. I felt cold and hungry for it was now dinner time, but I dared not interrupt the train of the great detective's thoughts. Suddenly he cried, "I have it. I have it, Jimson! We'll say we've lost our dog, or cat, and ask them if they've seen it. Come on." We pushed the door and entered.

Before us was a short counter, with piles of laundry parcels on shelves behind. A small door at the left led to regions unknown. Behind the counter stood a Celestial, whose countenance bore an extraordinary resemblance to a pickled walnut of the vintage of 1870. "What want?" he questioned briefly. Sprague answered in perfect pidgin English, which is the language spoken by these people, "Doggie, lost-um. Hah seen?" He threw back his head and gave several sharp barks and growls, to explain the thing more fully. To assist him, I ran about on all fours, doing my best to imitate the wails of a starving cat. For a moment the Chinaman seemed non-plussed, then his face lit up. He darted through the inner door and reappeared in an instant with a huge platter of some kind of stew, smoking hot. He set this before us and said, "Twenty-five cent." The connection between our actions and the result was too horribly plain to need any further explanation. I felt sick. Sprague, however, went on speaking in pidgin English, trying to make the Oriental understand. Finally the man went out again.

"Aha," grated Sprague in my ear, "This is the chance I've been waiting for. Now, watch me." He pulled out of his coat pocket a small, square

box. On his pressing a button, one end fell out and a long jointed arm of steel shot forth, bearing at its extremity something that resembled a camera. It vanished through the door by which the Chinaman had made his exit; the metal arm being flexible, moved round the corner with ease.

"See," said Henneidy, "this is my patent long-distance camera which I have just perfected. With it I can take a picture of the interior of the opium den and the Celestial. He suddenly stopped as a dreadful shriek rang out from within. A second later and a flat-iron shot through the doorway and struck the wall opposite with a loud thud. "Ha," cried Sprague, "I must withdraw the camera, they must have seen it." He began to wind up with a little handle in the side of the box. To our horror, however, there was a loud click and the mechanism refused to budge. At the same time we heard a crashing noise from within and loud cries in Chinese. "Heavens, Jimson," gasped Henneidy, "we must make our escape," and he moved towards the door. But at that moment there was a whirl from the box and the camera came shooting round the corner, with the walnut-faced Celestial clinging desperately to it. He struck the pile of laundry parcels and brought it low in ruin. A gong beat loudly, and a stream of yellow men poured into the room, waving joss-sticks and other similar weapons. "Wait," cried Sprague, spreading his arms apart, "You are making a mistake. Listen to me!" Before he could say more a bowl of chop-suey came hurtling through the air and burst into pieces on his head. A shower of missiles followed. The enemy seemed invulnerable. I saw three or more flat-irons bounce off Henneidy's head in succession, like hail off a tin roof. After that I have a confused memory of falling out through the plate-glass window amid a rain of Chinamen, laundry parcels and profanity from Sprague, this being the only time I ever heard him swear. Then it became dark.

I came to my senses ten minutes later to find Sprague and myself surrounded by an eager crowd of spectators, who were making rude remarks about our appearance. Sprague, indeed, looked dreadful. The chop-suey was spread thickly over his head and shoulders, the marks of the flat-irons were unmistakably plain, and his head was stuck through a large package of laundry, giving him quite a rakish air. Doubtless my appearance was similar. We rose hastily and made our escape just as a police patrol drove up. By hurrying along a side street we reached my apartment without attracting too much attention. After getting cleaned up we sat down to talk the matter over.

"It is obvious," said Sprague, "that the place, as I thought, is an opium den. The great number of inmates alone would prove that. If we call in the police first, they will juggle everything as usual, and the criminals will escape. I therefore purpose to make a visit tonight to the place, properly armed, and lay my hands on some of their drug, by which means I shall certainly be able to bring them to book. I'll let the police do the actual arresting."

That night, at eight o'clock, Sprague carried a machine gun and a short tube of something or other, which was wrapped round with wire, and connected with a battery in his vest-pocket. We stopped at the corner police station, where Sprague was well known. "Inspector," said he, "I'd like you to be on hand at ten o'clock at the back of Ho Lee Smoke's laundry with ten men. I can promise you some important arrests. 'Ho Lee Smoke!' exclaimed the officer, "Why, that's the guy that laid a complaint this noon about a couple of crooks coming into his place and trying to clean it up and—"

"A mere blind, a mere blind, inspector," said Sprague. "The man is a master criminal." "All right, Sir, I'll be there," said the inspector. We went out and hastened on. As we passed a butcher's Henneidy went in and bought a pound of soup beef. I was at a loss to understand his motive for this, but he would not explain.

We soon arrived at the fatal laundry. This time we crept round to the side, where a small window shone brightly. The back-yard was surrounded with a high fence. Sprague whipped out his folding step-ladder, which he invariably carried in his hip pocket, and leaned it against the wall of the house, under the window. We mounted and peered in. The walnut-faced one was busily engaged in ironing. No one else was in sight. "Look at this," hissed Sprague in my ear, and he showed me a little glass capsule. "Concentrated chlorine gas," he went on, "to drive them out of the room while I'm getting the clues. See?" And he opened the window suddenly and dropped the capsule within. Instantly the place was filled with the fumes of chlorine. The walnut-faced Celestial cast a frantic look around, and then saw Sprague's face at the window. He let out a wild cry and sped out of the room. Henneidy, in a moment, had donned a gas-mask and dropped inside. He groped in a corner for a second, and

then rose and, with a triumphant cry, darted back to the window. As he did so, a score of Chinamen rushed in. Apparently unaffected by the gas, they charged at Sprague, who sprang up, caught the sill and dragged himself half through the window. Two Celestials, however, grasped his feet to pull him down. With a grim smile, Sprague touched his wrist. Instantly, the two let go their hold and were catapulted back with terrific violence. Sprague joined me a moment later, and we retreated to the back of the house. All was confusion within, and fire-crackers went off at regular intervals. An ominous barking and growling came from the back yard. "A bound," exclaimed Sprague, "I thought so. Watch me fix him." He took out the soup beef and buried the little tube he had brought in it. Then, unrolling the wire, he tossed the meat over the wall. "Inside the tube," he whispered, "is a charge of gun cotton. When the dog swallows the meat, a circuit is formed, and the battery here explodes the charge. Quite simple." "Oh, Sprague," cried I, "None but you could ever originate such a scheme!"

At this moment a dark figure arose beside us. It was the inspector. "Shall we raid the place, sir," he asked, touching his cap to Henneidy. "Better creep in slowly," answered the latter. "Right, sir," said the officer, and he climbed over the wall. As he did so, we heard him exclaim in surprise. "Why," cried he, "here's a bit of meat, sir, with—"

"Le go, you idiot, quick!" shouted Sprague. Too late! A loud roar sounded, and a shower of earth and stones fell around. In the midst of the debris, a dark body rose slowly in the air, hung suspended majestically overhead and dropped at our feet with a dull, sickening thud. We had blown up the inspector!

He was not seriously injured. The explosion had been the signal for rush by the police. As we climbed over the wall, they were lining up their prisoners by the light of flash lamps and Chinese lanterns. Sprague advanced and held out a small blackish lump of some sticky substance. "Opium," he said, "found on the premises." "Opium! Opium nothing!" cried the inspector. "Why, that's the inside of a Chinese nut!" At this moment a policeman stepped out and reported that there had been no drugs found in the house. "Hum," said the officer, looking at Sprague. "Looks as if your friend made a mistake, sir. Why, what's that wire hanging from your vest?" he suddenly queried, with a certain growing coldness of manner. "Oh, I see," he went on explosively. "Some more of your infernal devices. Look at me! Half-killed, I am, and all through you. You'd better get along quick, unless you want to get run in." Sprague turned away in silent disdain, his lip curling slightly. I followed him. "This is the last time," said he, "that I call in the police to share in the honour I have gained by my work. Once again, they have made a mess of everything. Henceforward, I work alone."

"But tell me, Sprague," cried I, "how was it that these two Chinamen were thrown back when they seized your feet?" "Why," said he, partly restored to good humour; "it was quite simple. I had wires attached to that battery in my pocket, and running down into my boots, which had large metal plates on the toes and heels. When they seized them I simply pressed this button at my wrist, and they got a shock. The boots were rubber-lined, so I received no ill-effects." "Sprague, you are wonderful," cried I.

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DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE, OTTAWA, OCTOBER 7th, 1916.

The Royal Military College of Canada.

THERE are few national institutions of more value and interest to the country than the Royal Military College of Canada. Notwithstanding this, its object and the work it is accomplishing are not sufficiently understood by the general public.

The College is a Government Institution, designed primarily for the purpose of giving instruction in all branches of military science to cadets and Officers of the Canadian Militia. In fact, it corresponds to Woolwich and Sandhurst. The Commandant and military instructors are all officers on the active list of the Imperial army, lent for the purpose, and there is in addition a complete staff of professors for the civil subjects which form such an important part of the College course. Medical attendance is also provided.

Whilst the College is organized on a strictly military basis the cadets receive a practical and scientific training in subjects essential to a sound modern education. The course includes a thorough grounding in Mathematics, Civil Engineering, Surveying, Physics, Chemistry, French and English.

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PROVINCE OF QUEBEC

DEPARTMENT OF COLONIZATION, MINES AND FISHERIES.

The chief minerals of the Province of Quebec are Asbestos, Chromite, Copper, Iron, Gold, Molybdenite, Phosphate, Mica, Graphite, Ornamental and Building Stone, Clays, Etc.

The Mining Law gives absolute security of Title and is very favourable to the Prospector.

MINERS' CERTIFICATES.

First of all, obtain a miner's certificate, from the Department in Quebec or from the nearest agent. The price of this certificate is \$10.00, and it is valid until the first of January following. This certificate gives the right to prospect on public lands and on private lands, on which the mineral rights belong to the Crown.

The holder of the certificate may stake mining claims to the extent of 200 acres.

WORKING CONDITIONS.

During the first six months following the staking of the claim, work on it must be performed to the extent of at least twenty-five days of eight hours.

SIX MONTHS AFTER STAKING.

At the expiration of six months from the date of the staking, the prospector, to retain his rights, must take out a mining license.

MINING LICENSE.

The mining license may cover 40 to 200 acres in unsurveyed territory. The price of this license is Fifty Cents an acre per year, and a fee of \$10.00 on issue. It is valid for one year, and is renewable on the same terms, on producing an affidavit that during the year work has been performed to the extent of at least twenty-five days' labor on each forty acres.

MINING CONCESSION.

Notwithstanding the above, a mining concession may be acquired at any time at the rate of \$5.00 an acre for SUPERIOR METALS, and \$3.00 an acre for INFERIOR MINERALS.

The attention of prospectors is specially called to the territory in the North-Western part of the Province of Quebec, north of the height of land, where important mineralized belts are known to exist.

PROVINCIAL LABORATORY.

Special arrangements have been made with the POLYTECHNIC SCHOOL of LAVAL UNIVERSITY, 228 ST. DENIS STREET, MONTREAL, for the analysis of minerals at very reduced rates for the benefit of miners and prospectors in the Province of Quebec. The well equipped laboratories of this institution and its trained chemists ensure results of undoubted integrity and reliability.

The Bureau of Mines at Quebec will give all the information desired in connection with the mines and mineral resources of the Province, on application addressed to

HONORE MERCIER,

Minister of Colonization, Mines and Fisheries, Quebec.

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